



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION WEEK

- WHEREAS: Nearly 21,000 Georgians are among the approximately 500,000 Americans currently being treated for end stage renal disease (ESRD), an illness caused by the loss of renal function. The leading causes of ESRD in Georgia include hypertension and diabetes; and
- WHEREAS: Dialysis and kidney transplantation are the only two treatment options for those affected by ESRD. However, transplantation is limited due to the nationwide shortage of donors and the majority of ESRD patients undergo regular dialysis treatments; and
- WHEREAS: There are more than 300 dialysis facilities and three transplant facilities in Georgia; and
- WHEREAS: Nephrology nurses function as educators, direct patient caregivers, and coordinators to help patients manage their lives while effectively dealing with health issues. Nephrology nurses play an essential role in providing kidney disease patients with dialysis and related treatments; and
- WHEREAS: It is estimated that the number of patients with ESRD will increase by more than 8 percent each year. Many health professionals and organizations around the state and across the nation are dedicated to raising public awareness and support of this disease in hopes that treatment solutions and cures can be found, and effective education may be provided; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim August 6–10, 2018, as KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF